

Message Text

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13-12
ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 FEA-01 ERDA-05

AID-05 CEA-01 CIEP-01 COME-00 EB-07 FPC-01 INT-05

OMB-01 SAM-01 OES-06 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-07 /148 W
----- 034112

R 290941Z AUG 76
FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6097
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
*AMEMBASSY PARIS 1626
AMEMBASSY QUITO
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
USINT ERDTWAD
USMISSION OECD PARIS UNN
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, KU, PORG

SUBJECT: KUWAITI FOREIGN MINISTER ON NAC OIL EMBARGO OF
FRANCE RESOLUTION

1. SEVERAL KUWAITI PAPERS AUGUST 26 (BEGINNING TWO DAY
MUSLIM WEEKEND) QUOTE KUWAIT FOREIGN MINISTER SABAH AL-
AHMED AS SAYING THAT KUWAIT WILL NOT CARRY OUT NAC
RESOLUTION CONCERNING OIL EMBARGO OF FRANCE. FONMIN
REPORTEDLY SAID "THE RESOLUTION OF THE NON-ALIGNED
COUNTRIES CONFERENCE WAS ISSUED LATE AT NIGHT" AND
KUWAIT "DID NOT HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS IT.
WE ARE WITH OUR AFRICAN BROTHERS IN WHAT CONCERNS
THEIR INTEREST, HOWEVER THERE ARE CIRCUMSTANCES THAT
PREVENT THE APPLICATION OF THIS RESOLUTION IN RELATION TO
FRANCE IN PARTICULAR, DUE TO ITS ATTITUDES TOWARD ARAB
ISSUES." FONMIN ADDED THAT KUWAIT WOULD "EXPLAIN THIS
ATTITUDE TO OUR AFRICAN BROTHERS," AND NOTED THAT IN ANY
EVENT, SAUDI ARABIA AND IRAN WERE THE TWO MAJOR OIL
EXPORTERS TO FRANCE.

2. ECHOING MINISTER, KUWAIT DAILY (AL-QABAS) DECRIES
EMBARGO AS "ABSOLUTELY ILLOGICAL TO USE FOR THE SOLUTION
OF WORLD PROBLEMS", "NOT THE ONLY WAY FOR ENDING DIFFERENCES"
AND "NOT AN EASY WEAPON WHICH COULD BE APPLIED ANY TIME."

3. RE-ITERATING HIS MINISTER'S UNHAPPINESS, MINISTRY OF OIL
OFFICIAL, IN DISCUSSION WITH EMBOFF AUGUST 28, COMPLAINED
THAT THE NAC RESOLUTION AGAINST FRANCE HAD CAUGHT THE
KUWAITIS BY SURPRISE, COMING AT THE LAST MINUTE. HE
TERMED EMBARGO AGAINST FRANCE "COMPLETELY INAPPROPRIATE,
ESPECIALLY GIVEN FRANCE'S SUPPORT OF ARAB CAUSES," AND
CHUCKLED, "NOW THE FRENCH MAY APPRECIATE THE AMERICAN
SHARING SCHEMES A BIT MORE."

4. COMMENT: HAVING ASKED FOR AFRICAN SUPPORT ON
ARAB ISSUES IN THE PAST, KUWAITIS ARE OBVIOUSLY UNHAPPY
THAT TABLES TURNED ON THEM IN SUCH A CRUDE FASHION AT
COLOMBO. THEY HOPE THE FRENCH EMBARGO QUESTION WILL
BECOME A DEAD LETTER, WHICH PRESUMABLY IT WILL.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: OILS, RESOLUTIONS, EMBARGOES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976KUWAIT04120
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760329-0180
From: KUWAIT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t1976089/aaaaahed.tel
Line Count: 106
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 MAR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 MAR 2004 by greeneet>; APPROVED <03 AUG 2004 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: KUWAITI FOREIGN MINISTER ON NAC OIL EMBARGO OF FRANCE RESOLUTION
TAGS: ENRG, PORG, KU, FR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006